

Poetry Terms

| | |
|---------------------|---|
| Poetry | A literary genre written in lines and stanzas . |
| Line | The basic unit of a poem |
| Stanza | A group of lines |
| Literal Language | Words and expressions that are meant exactly as they are written or said. |
| Figurative Language | When writing is meant to be understood at a deeper level. Uses such techniques as simile, metaphor, personification and hyperbole. |
| Simile | A comparison using like or as. |
| Metaphor | A direct comparison (without using like or as). |
| Personification | When human qualities are given to animals or objects. |
| Hyperbole | An exaggeration. |
| Sound devices | Devices that the poet uses in order to create sound in the poem. These include: alliteration, onomatopoeia, repetition, rhyme and rhythm. |
| Alliteration | The repetition of consonant sounds at the beginning of words. Ex. The teeming trout twinkled below. |
| Onomatopoeia | The sound of words that resembles its meaning. Ex. Snap, pop, buzz, hiss |
| Repetition | The constant repeating of a word or phrase. |
| Rhyme | Match word sounds; often used in poetry. When the matching words occur at the ends of the lines of poetry it is called end rhyme . |
| Rhythm | The beat or tempo of a poem. |
| Symbol | When one thing represents something else. Ex a dove represents peace. |
| Tone | A poets attitude towards the subject they are writing about. |
| Mood | The feeling you get as you read a poem. |
| Atmosphere | The overall feeling that surrounds the poem. |
| Imagery | A mental picture created by using words that relate to the five senses (taste, touch, hearing, smell and sight). |
| Assonance | The repetition of vowel sounds in two or more words close together in a poem. |